Sovereign Grace Church

June 18th, 2023

We gather together
Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. and
Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m.

Nursery available for 4 years old and younger

"For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. And ye are complete in Him, which is the head of all principality and power:"

(Colossians 2:9-10)

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Sovereign Grace Church

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The drive of every true minister, enabled of God, is to comfort the people of God with the Gospel of Christ Jesus, our Lord. Look at what our faithful minister of the Gospel wants for God's people: *"that their hearts might be comforted."* How does Paul intend to do that? God's ministers; ever hold to the view of God's people; the glorious accomplishment of the life and death of the the Lord Jesus Christ; they determine to preach Christ and Him crucified [1 Corinthians 2:2, 1:21]. And what is it that the Lord Jesus Christ accomplished that would cause His people here this morning to rejoice? Our Lord said *"I came not to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance."* And in another place He says *"this is the Father's will which hath sent Me, that of all which He hath given Me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day."* And that He shall. Beloved sinner, I pray that God would graciously grant you to repent and believe the *Word of Truth, the Gospel of* your *salvation* [Ephesians 1:13, 2 Corinthians 7:10]. Amen. — JDM

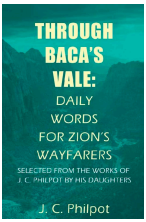
Welcome

SINNERS are welcome at Sovereign Grace Church. We are a local body of the Lord Jesus Christ. As you spend time with us, you'll soon discover we're an imperfect assembly, with an imperfect pastor, yet by God's *undeserved* grace, we preach, believe, and know the perfect gospel of our never failing Lord Jesus Christ. Reader, we call His name Jesus for He shall (not might, not maybe) rather He shall save His people from their sins. And beloved believing sinner you already know it! You are *complete in Him*, saved to the *uttermost* [Colossians 2:10, Hebrews 7:25].

Announcements

New On Our Bookshelf

(bookshelf.sovereigngrace.us)



Resources

BE sure to visit our website for gospel articles, live messages, and resources.

www.sovereigngracechurch.us

Grace Articles

The fulness of Christ

"Little children, keep yourselves from idols. Amen." (1 John 5:21)

Beloved,—Labour to grow in the sound knowledge of God and of Christ, and of their all-sufficiency. Mark St Paul's method, Colossians chapter 1, and in other places, when he would draw us from all outward things, he speaks gloriously of the fulness of Christ, *"In Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily,"* Colossians 2:9; and, *"In Him you are complete."* When he would draw them from "touch not, taste not, handle not, worshipping of angels, and from counterfeit humility," Colossians 2:21, etc, he labours to dispossess them of these idolatrous conceits, and to possess them of the fulness of Christ. If in Him we have fulness, why should we look for any thing out of Him? If we be complete in Him, if all fulness be in Him, why do we seek any thing out of that fulness? Thus the holy apostle shutteth up his first epistle, "Babes, keep you from idols," 1st John 5:21. What is promised there? Christ is eternal life, all is in Him; whereupon presently comes this, Babes, keep you from idols? If life and happiness, and all be in Christ, if we be complete in Him, and the fulness of all be in Him, why should we go out of Him for anything? When God would persuade Abraham to leave all idolatry, Genesis 15:1, and all things else, to depend wholly upon Him, what doth He first possess him with? "I am God all-sufficient," etc. Know God in covenant all-sufficient, and Christ in the fulness of His high perfections as Mediator, in whom is all fulness and life eternal, in whom we are complete; we shall then be so far from going out of Him for any thing, as we shall be of the same mind with Ephraim, "What have I now any more to do with other intercessors and mediators?" [Hosea 14:8], what have I to do with will-worship? what need I go to other cursed means, when God is all-sufficient? It is the scope of the new covenant of grace, that we should glory in God only, who hath made Christ unto us "wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption," 1st Corinthians 1:30. And all this, because that whosoever glorieth in Him, should not go out of Him for any thing. The more we know therefore the fulness of Christ, and God's mercy in Him, the more we shall abhor all idolatry, with the kinds and degrees of it. — Richard Sibbes

hear it online

"There is more mercy in Christ than sin in us." — RS

"We may not feel complete, but we are complete"

"…as He is, so are we in this world" (1 John 4:17)

There is nothing about me that feels complete. I always feel there is something lacking in my faith, love, repentance, sincerity or anything else. But God's Word tells me I am complete in Him. Not I will be complete or I am in the process of being made complete, but I am, right now, complete, lacking nothing, completely filled. However complete the Christ is, that is how complete I am; *"As He is, so are we in this world"* (1 John 4:17). We have this on the authority of God's Word. We may not feel complete, but we are complete. [AMEN!] — Todd Nibert

hear it online

"Complete in Him"

"…in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily" (Colossians 2:9)

The church, considered in herself, is a weak, afflicted, defenceless society. In respect to numbers, she has been in general the fewest of all people. With respect to outward circumstances, she has been composed of a poor and an afflicted people. With respect to talents and human acquirements, not many wise men after the flesh have joined her fellowship; but God has chosen the weak things of this world to confound the things that are mighty, and the foolish things to confound the wise, and things that are not, to bring to naught things that are. But viewed in connexion with her Head, she is the most noble, most safe and happy society that ever has, or ever will exist on this side the grave. She is complete in Him who is the Head of all principalities and powers. And in the preceding verse, to convince us of this, the apostle says, *"For in Him dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily."* The Godhead is a scriptural expression for the divine nature. And we are here told that in Christ Jesus all the fulness of this nature dwells. In His person as the Son of God, there is not an essential attribute of Godhead which does not belong to Him. This fulness is in Him bodily, that is, wholly. Or, the expression may refer to His human nature; then it dwells in Him really, and not figuratively, as the Shekinah in the tabernacle or temple, which was only a symbol of Divinity, a shadow of His gracious presence; but in Christ the fulness of Deity dwells substantially, and all the divine perfections are exercised by Him, as *"God* manifested *in the flesh,"* through the union of the divine and human natures in one person. This fulness, as it is said to dwell in His person absolutely, dwells in it necessarily. In this respect it differs from His mediatorial fulness, of which the same apostle speaks: *"For it pleased the Father that in Him should all fulness dwell"* (Colossians 1:19). It is in this relative fulness that His church is complete, or, as the word may be rendered, made full in Him; and it is out of this fulness that all His people receive grace upon grace. Thus the church is filled up, rendered perfect or complete in Him. Whatever is necessary for her purity, peace, happiness and safety, either in their beginning or consummation, is found treasured up in Him. "He is made of God unto her, wisdom, righteousness, sanctification and redemption" [1 Corinthians 1:30]. All who believe in Christ for the salvation of their souls, are complete in Him as a head of reconciliation. May you and I, Christian reader, be found among that honoured, that happy, that complete number. — Copied

hear it online